

● PRINTER RUSH ●
(PTO ASSISTANCE)

E

Application : <u>10/785450</u>	Examiner : <u>Lipman</u>	GAU : <u>1713</u>
From: <u>PAP</u>	Location: <u>IDC</u> FMF FDC	Date: <u>6/20/05</u>
Tracking #: <u>06098884</u>		Week Date: <u>4/25/05</u>

DOC CODE	DOC DATE	MISCELLANEOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> 1449	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Continuing Data
<input type="checkbox"/> IDS	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Foreign Priority
<input type="checkbox"/> CLM	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Document Legibility
<input type="checkbox"/> IIFW	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Fees
<input type="checkbox"/> SRFW	_____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> DRW	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> OATH	_____	
<input type="checkbox"/> 312	_____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SPEC	<u>2/24/2004</u>	

[RUSH] MESSAGE: Page 7, line 5 of the specification
is missing data (Foreign application number)

Thank you

[XRUSH] RESPONSE: _____

Corrected

Brian Szymanski

651-737-9138

INITIALS: BS

NOTE: This form will be included as part of the official USPTO record, with the Response document coded as XRUSH.

REV 10/04 will call back

5537745014

2/57/06

nozzles or slits and thereby the coagulation is achieved. The high pressures are produced by a so-called homogenizer. This technology does not work for elastomer dispersions due to clogging and jamming the equipment.

5 As suggested in ~~BE~~ (filed of even date herewith, our reference number ~~DYN 2000/U002~~) these difficulties can be overcome by generating high pressures with pressurized gases from 50 to 400 bar ($5 \cdot 10^6$ to $4 \cdot 10^7$ Pa).

10 In contrast to the process disclosed in US-A-5 463 021 the coagulation by this technique appears to be brought about by the rapid expansion of the dissolved gas, preferably via a nozzle.

PS
2/4/05
15 The preferred gases for use with this process are nitrogen, air or CO₂.

In yet another coagulation process a volatile water-miscible organic solvent effects the coagulation. The solvent is selected from the group consisting of alkanols of 1 to 4 carbon atoms and ketones of 2 or 3 carbon atoms. The
20 said solvents should not have a significant swelling effect onto the said polymer, lest the coagulated or agglomerated polymer becomes too sticky thus impairing the work-up.

Mechanical and thermal methods for coagulating polymers are known from US-A-5 463 021, EP-B-0 084 837,
25 EP-B-0 226 668 and EP-B-0 460 284.

After being coagulated the fluoropolymer may be dewatered. One method of dewatering the polymer is by mechanical dewatering. This process is described in US-A-4 132 845.

30 The wet polymers can be dried, usually in a temperature range of from 110 °C, preferably 150 °C, to 250 °C, in the presence of a carrier gas like air or nitrogen.

In the following preferred embodiments with the respect to fluoroelastomers are described in more detail:

German Patent Application number 1004229.5, filed on February 1, 2000, these difficulties can be overcome